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WASHINGTON STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON - TELEPHONICALLY
DECEMBER 20, 2005

The Washington State Conservation Commission (Commission/WSCC) held a special session telephonically on December 20, 2005 in Lacey, Washington. Commission Vice Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS & ACTION ITEMS

1. *Phase 2 Livestock Technical Assistance Distribution*

Commissioner Barker moved to approve the staff recommendation to fund applications that were received on time and to fund the Priority 1 and Priority 2 requests. Commissioner Adams seconded.

Moved by Commissioner Boyum and seconded by Commissioner Eriksen to amend the motion to include King Conservation District's application received after the deadline and funding of Priority 1 and 2 requests. The unused funding of \$17,189 will be distributed to the Thurston Conservation District.

Vote on the amendment passed with four commissioners voting yes, three voting no and Commissioner Colvin abstaining.

The amended motion passed unanimously.

A report will be given at the January meeting.

ATTENDEES

Commission Members

Lynn Brown, Vice Chair
Ed Adams, Member WSU
Robert Barker, Member
Bill Boyum, Member, DNR
Lynn Bahrych, Member
Lee Faulconer, Member, AG
Fred Colvin, Member, WACD
Tracy Eriksen, Member

Commission Staff

Mark Clark, Executive Director
Mary Anderson, Executive Assistant
Stu Trefry, Regional Manager
Cheryl Witt, Grants Program Manager
Tom Salzer, Regional Manager

Guests

Nora Mena, Dept. of Agriculture
John Larson, WACD Executive Director
John Schuh, Skagit CD

Terry Bruegman, Columbia CD
Cheryl Sonnen, Asotin CD

PHASE 2 LIVESTOCK TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA) DISTRIBUTION

Mark Clark, WSCC Executive Director, described the background of the methodology of the approved distribution process discussed at the December Commission Meeting. Grant applications have been

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received. The methodology was to break out into two phases. Phase 2 consisted of prioritizing the applications into four categories.

Cheryl Witt, Grants Program Manager, presented an overview of the application process. Thirty eight applications were received, only one was late by one day. The Commission has \$1,600,000 funding distribution for the Phase 2 Livestock Technical Assistance.

Phase 2 Base Allocation – This funding can be used to continue Livestock Program activities started with Phase 1. Phase 2 Base Allocation dollars will be added to whatever remains of a district's \$5,000 Phase 1 Base Allocation.

Needs Assessment Allocation – Actual landowner requests for technical assistance identified in the Phase 1 needs assessment conducted in each district determines the assistance, travel and overhead needed to address **actual** landowner requests for districted assistance and only for workload that can be accomplished by June 30, 2007. These funds can be used to provide technical assistance to landowners for planning and implementation of conservation/nutrient management plans.

Needs Assessment Allocation funds will be distributed based on priorities. All higher priority needs will be funded before consideration will be given to the next lower priority.

Phase 2 Needs Assessment dollars will be added to any of a district's unspent Phase 1 Technical Assistance funds in order to bring the level of funding up to their award amount. If more funds are requested by all applicants than are available, prorated distributions will be made.

Commission staff recommends

- Fund only on-time applications
- Fund all of Priority 1 and Priority 2 requests.
- If only on-time applications are funded, utilize the remaining \$41,864 to partially fund Thurston Conservation district's Priority 3 request of \$47,160. Thurston is the only district among the applicants already receiving cost share from the Commission that would not receive technical assistance funding to service existing Cost Share Agreements.
- If all applications are funded, add the remaining \$17,189 to the \$50,000 Referral Set-Aside.

A discussion followed on unfunded requests.

Mr. Clark noted that the needs were based on a good crosscheck. There is an opportunity between now and the January meeting to look at the funding requests for Priorities 3 and 4 in order to decide whether a budget supplemental package should be prepared.

Commissioner Barker moved to approve the staff recommendation to fund applications that were received on time and the Priority 1 and Priority 2 requests. Commissioner Adams seconded.

Moved by Commissioner Boyum and seconded by Commissioner Eriksen to amend the motion to include King Conservation District's application received after the deadline and funding of Priority 1 and 2 requests. The unused funding of \$17,189 will be distributed to the Thurston Conservation District.

Vote on the amendment passed with four commissioners voting yes, three voting no and Commissioner Colvin abstaining.

The amended motion passed unanimously.

Discussion followed. A report will be given at the January meeting.

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NEXT COMMISSION MEETING

Regular Commission Meeting:

January 18, 2006 – Work Session followed by a Field Tour coordinated by the Mason Conservation District and no host Interaction Dinner.

January 19, 2006 - Regular Commission Meeting
Washington State Conservation Commission
300 Desmond Drive
Lacey, Washington

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:45 a.m.